



### **There are two new Safeguarding updates**

A letter to all Safeguarding officers and verifiers updating them on the final stages of the DBS microsite project. [Click here to read it.](#)

And the new Diocesan Safeguarding Strategy is now available on our website.

In his introduction to the Strategy, Bishop Nicholas says:

"We need to ensure the safeguarding of everyone but especially of children and vulnerable adults. It is an area that is in particular focus for us at the moment and there are likely to be continuing changes. It is vital that we keep to the highest standards and that when a complaint is made it is dealt with in the ways set out by this strategy. All clergy receive safeguarding training as part of their Continuing Ministerial Development."

Under Safeguarding: Guiding Principles, the document says:

"We are all in need of protection from harm and as a Christian community it is the responsibility of every one of us to protect those less able to protect themselves.

"The safeguarding and protection of children, and adults at risk is everyone's responsibility, not just parents, guardians and carers."

It goes on to say:

"It is our aim that each Parish in the Diocese of Salisbury has a robust safeguarding policy and supporting procedures, every member of staff and volunteer has received training appropriate to their role and we have created a culture across the Diocese which reflects our commitment to safeguarding as defined by the Guiding Principles."

"It is imperative that all members of the Diocese who come into contact with children or adults who may be at risk whilst carrying out their role, are equipped with the necessary knowledge of legislation and guidance and that an opportunity is provided to discuss in an open and confidential environment situations they have experienced or can anticipate."

The Strategy document reminds us that the law requires every person within the Diocese, working or volunteering in a role which brings them into significant contact with children or adults who may be at risk, completes a Disclosure Barring System (DBS) check, and that in the Church of England this is renewed every 5 years.

It also stresses that:

"Every parish has a moral and legal responsibility to implement a robust safeguarding policy that sets out how the Safeguarding Guiding Principles will be applied and to have in place a Safer Recruitment Policy and process which sets out how they will recruit people to those roles working directly with vulnerable people, both paid and voluntary. They are also required to adopt the Church of England Policy – Promoting a Safer Church."

And that:

"Every member of the Diocese with a leadership role has special responsibilities to ensure not only that the relevant policies and procedures are implemented, but that the culture of the Diocese is one which recognises the obligations of safeguarding and demonstrates our commitment to creating and maintaining an environment where children and adults feel safe".

Access the full Strategy document [here](#).